

ternal commerce of our thirty-eight States and nine Territories is carried on without less or hindrance, without tax, detention or Governmental interference of any kind whatever. It spreads freely over an area of three and a half million square miles—almost equal in extent to the whole continent of Europe. Its profits are enjoyed to-day by fifty-six millions of American freemen, and from this enjoyment no monopoly is created. According to Alexander Hamilton, when he discussed the same subject in 1790, "the internal competition which takes place does away with everything like monopoly, and by degrees reduces the prices of articles to the minimum of a reasonable profit on the capital employed." It is impossible to point to a single monopoly in the United States that has been created or foisted by the industrial system which is upheld by the Republican party.

Compared with our foreign commerce these domestic exchanges are inconceivably great in amount—requiring merely as one instrumentality as large a mileage of railway as exists to-day in all the other nations of the world combined. These internal exchanges are estimated by the Statistical Bureau of the Treasury Department to be annually twenty times as great in amount as our foreign commerce. It is into this vast field of home trade—at once the creation and the heritage of the American people—that foreign nations are striving by every device to enter. It is into this field that the opponents of our present revenue system would freely admit the countries of Europe—countries into whose internal trade we could not reciprocally enter; countries to which we should be surrendering every advantage of trade; from which we should be gaining nothing in return.

#### EFFECT UPON THE MECHANIC AND THE LABORER.

A policy of this kind would be disastrous to the mechanics and workmen of the United States. Wages are unjustly reduced when an industrious man is not able by his earnings to live in comfort, educate his children, and lay by a sufficient amount for the necessities of age. The reduction of wages inevitably consequent upon throwing our home market open to the world would deprive them of the power to do this. It would prove a great calamity to our country. It would produce a conflict between the poor and the rich, and in the sorrowful degradation of labor would plant the seeds of public danger.

The Republican party has steadily aimed to maintain just relations between labor and capital—guarding with care the rights of each. A conflict between the two has always led in the past and will always lead in the future to the injury of both.

Labor is indispensable to the creation and profitable use of capital, and capital increases the efficiency and value of labor. Whoever arrays the one against the other is an enemy of both. That policy is wisest and best which harmonizes the two on the basis of absolute justice. The Republican party has protected the free labor of America so that its compensation is larger than is realized in any other country. It has guarded our people against the unfair competition of contract labor from China, and may be called upon to prohibit the growth of a similar evil from Europe. It is obviously unfair to permit capitalists to make contracts for cheap labor in foreign countries to the hurt and disengagement of the labor of American citizens. Such a policy is wise and just which leaves the time and other conditions of home labor exclusively in the control of the employer. It is injurious to all parties—not the least so to the unhappy persons who are made the subjects of the contract. The institutions of the United States rest upon the intelligence and virtue of all the people. Slavery is made universal as a just weapon of self-protection to every citizen. It is not the interest of the Republic that any economic system should be adopted which involves the reduction of wages to the hard standard prevailing elsewhere. The Republican party aims to elevate and dignify labor—not to degrade it.

As a substitute for the industrial system which under Republican administration has developed such extraordinary prosperity, our opponents offer a policy which is but a series of experiments upon our system of revenue—a policy which must be harmful to our manufacturers and greater harm to our labor. Experiment in the industrial and financial system is the country's greatest dread, as stability is its greatest boon. Even the uncertainty resulting from the recent tariff legislation in Congress has hurtfully affected the business of the entire country.

Who can measure the harm to our shops and our homes, to our farms and our commerce, if the uncertainty of perpetual tariff legislation is to be inflicted upon the country? We are in the midst of an abundant harvest; the two ends to be accomplished. The public welfare will be aided by separating the Legislative branch of the Government from all control of appointments, and the Executive Department will be relieved by subjecting appointments to fixed rules and thus removing them from the caprice of favoritism. But there should be rigid observance of the law which gives in all cases of equal competition the preference to the soldiers who risked their lives in defense of the Union.

I entered Congress in 1863, and in a somewhat protracted service I never found it expedient to request or recommend the removal of a civil officer except in four instances, and then for non-political reasons which were instantly conclusive with the appointing power. The officers in the district, appointed by Mr. Lincoln in 1861 upon the recommendation of my predecessor, served as a rule, until death or resignation. I adopted at the beginning of my service the test of competitive examination for appointments to West Point and maintained it so long as I had the right by law to nominate a cadet. In the case of many officers I found that the present law, which arbitrarily limits the term of the commission, offered a constant temptation to changes for mere political reasons. I have publicly expressed the belief that the essential modification of that law would be in many respects advantageous.

My observation in the Department of State confirmed the conclusions of my legislative experience, and impressed me with the conviction that the rule of impartial appointment might with advantage be carried beyond any existing provision of the Civil Service Law. It should be applied to appointments in the consular service. Consuls should be commercial sentinels—encircling the globe with watchfulness for their country's interests. Their intelligence and competency heretofore, therefore, matters of great public concern. No man should be appointed to an American consulate who is not well instructed in the history and resources of his own country, and in the requirements and language of commerce in the country to which he is sent. The same rule should be applied even more rigidly to secretaries of legation in our diplomatic service. The people have the right to the most efficient agents in the discharge of public business, and the appointing power should regard this as the prior and ultimate consideration.

**THE MORMON QUESTION.**

BOSTON, July 18.—At the regular weekly session of the Higher Council of the New England "Conductors" Protective Association, held on Thursday evening in Boston, resolutions were offered and passed favoring the election of Blaine for President as a suitable candidate for the advancement of the interests of the association as well as the interests of other workmen. It was also resolved that the members work for his election in every legitimate manner, and gain strength daily. Governor Cleveland last night expressed their readiness to do this. The association has been allowed to drift away from us. We should now make every effort to gain their friendship. Our trade with them is already large. During the last year our exchanges in the Western Hemisphere amounted to three hundred and fifty millions of dollars—nearly one-fourth of our entire foreign commerce. To those who may be disposed to underrate the value of our trade with the countries of North and South America, it may be well to state that their population is nearly or quite fifty millions—and that, in proportion to the size of their numbers, we import nearly double as much from them as we do from Europe. But the result of the whole American trade is in a high degree unsatisfactory. The imports during the past year exceeded two hundred and twenty-five millions, while the exports were less than one hundred and twenty-five millions—showing a balance against us of more than one hundred millions of dollars. But the money does not go to Spanish America. We send large sums to Europe in coin or its equivalent to pay European manufacturers for the goods which they send to Spanish America. We are but paymasters for this enormous amount annually to European factors—an amount which is a serious draft,

on our financial resources of society.

**OUR CURRENCY.**

The people of the United States, though often urged and tempted, have never seriously contemplated the recognition of any other money than gold and silver—and currency directly convertible into them. They have not done so, they will not do so, under any necessity less pressing than that of desperate war. The one special requisite for the completion of our monetary system is the fixing of the relative values of silver and gold. The large use of silver as the money of account among Asiatic nations, taken in connection with the increasing commerce of the world, gives the weightiest reasons for an international agreement in this premises. Our Government should not cease to urge this measure until a common standard of value shall be reached and established—a standard that shall enable the United States to use the silver from its mines as an auxiliary to gold in settling the balances of commerce exchange.

**THE PUBLIC LANDS.**

The strength of the Republic is increased by the multiplication of land-holders. Our laws should look to the judicious encouragement of actual settlers on the public domain, which should henceforth be held as a sacred trust for the benefit of those seeking homes. The tendency to consolidate large tracts of land in the ownership of individuals or corporations should, with proper regard to vested rights, be discouraged. One hundred thousand acres of land in the hands of one man is far less profitable to the Nation in every way than when its ownership is divided among one thousand men. The evil of permitting large tracts of the National domain to be consolidated and controlled by the few against the many is enhanced when the persons controlling it are aliens. It is but fair that the public land should be disposed of only to actual settlers, and to those who are citizens of the Republic or willing to become so.

#### THE SOUTHERN STATES.

I recognize, not without regret, the necessity for speaking of two sections of our common country. But the regret diminishes when I see that the elements which separated them are fast disappearing. Prejudices have yielded and are yielding, while a growing cordiality warms the Southern and the Northern heart alike. Can any one doubt that between the sections confidence and esteem are to-day more marked than at any period in the sixty years preceding the election of President Lincoln? This is the result in part of time and in part of Republican principles applied under the favorable conditions of uniformity. It would be a great calamity to change these influences under which Southern Commonwealths are learning to vindicate civil rights, and adapting themselves to the conditions of political tranquillity and industrial progress. If there be occasional and violent outbreaks in the South against this peaceful progress, the public opinion of the country regards them as exceptional, and hopefully trusts that each will prove the last.

The South needs capital and occupation, not controversy. As much as any part of the North, the South needs the full protection of the revenue laws which the Republican party offers. Some of the Southern States have already entered upon a career of industrial development and prosperity. These, at least, should not lend their electoral votes to destroy their own future.

#### SACREDNESS OF THE BALLOT.

This survey of our condition as a Nation reminds us that material prosperity is but a mockery if it does not tend to preserve the liberty of the people. A free ballot is the safeguard of republican institutions, without which no national welfare is assured. A popular election, honestly conducted, embodies the very majesty of true government. Ten millions of voters desire to take part in the pending contest. The safety of the Republic rests upon the integrity of the ballot, upon the security of suffrage to the citizen. To deposit a fraudulent vote is no worse a crime against constitutional liberty than to obstruct the deposit of an honest vote. He who corrupts suffrage strikes at the very root of free government. He is the arch-enemy of the Republic. He forgets that in trampling upon the rights of others he fatally impairs his own rights. "It is a just weapon which the Lord our God give us," but we can maintain our heritage only by guarding with vigilance the sources of popular power. I am with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

#### LOGAN'S LETTER TO BE READY NEXT WEEK.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, July 18.—General Logan will start tomorrow for Minneapolis, to attend the Reunion of Army Veterans. He will return to Washington in the latter part of the month. His letter of acceptance will not be made public until Wednesday next.

#### BLAINE AND PROTECTION IN LOUISIANA; SOME VIGOROUS WORDS FOR THE REPUBLICANS IN THE SUGAR PLANTERS.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

NEW-ORLEANS, July 18.—The Republicans of this State are making a determined effort to capture the vote of planters, traders and others interested in sugar culture, for Blaine and grade that. At a recent meeting of the Central Sugar Planter's Association, an organization composed of the best element of the Republican party in this city, a number of conservatives who have heretofore acted with the Democrats, appended a resolution to confer with the executive committee of the "Sugar Planters" Association and any committee from any other organization or commercial body, to ascertain if they will co-operate in the nomination of an electoral ticket for this State in the interest of Blaine.

The growth of the country has continually and necessarily enlarged the civil service, and now it includes a vast body of officers. Rules and methods of appointment which prevailed when the number was smaller have been found insufficient and impracticable, and earnest efforts have been made to separate the great mass of ministerial officers from partisan influence and personal control. Impartiality in the mode of appointment to be based on qualification and security of tenure to be based on faithful discharge of duty, are the two ends to be accomplished. The public welfare will be aided by separating the Legislative branch of the Government from all control of appointments, and the Executive Department will be relieved by subjecting appointments to fixed rules and thus removing them from the caprice of favoritism. But there should be rigid observance of the law which gives in all cases of equal competition the preference to the soldiers who risked their lives in defense of the Union.

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It should be applied to appointments in the consular service.

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Their intelligence and competency heretofore, therefore, matters of great public concern.

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The people have the right to the most efficient agents in the discharge of public business, and the appointing power should regard this as the prior and ultimate consideration.

TO THE ROAD MEN FOR BLAINE.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Secretary Teller expects to leave Washington for Colorado within a few days, to absent several weeks. He will probably go by the way of New-York, in order to talk with members of the Republican National Committee about political matters. It is understood that Secretary Teller will make a number of speeches in the course of the campaign. It is believed that Postmaster General Gresham will also make a number of speeches during the campaign, although he has not yet fully decided. He has already resolved to speak in Denver, Colorado, and at his friend's house in Denver and Kanesville. If he does so, he will make one speech in Jackson, Miss., during a portion of the tour he is to make in Mississippi and Louisiana, and highly respected by the people of that State, without regard to party.

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